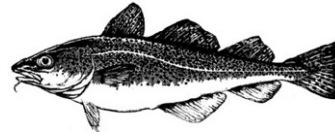


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Maria Wessel, Groundfish Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 424-3212
Fax: (907) 424-3235

Cordova Office
P.O. Box 669
Cordova, AK. 99574
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**FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA-E
PARALLEL PACIFIC COD FISHERY SEASON CLOSING TO JIG GEAR
STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD FISHERY SEASON OPENING TO JIG GEAR
EMERGENCY ORDER # 2-GF-E-06-12**

The Prince William Sound (PWS) Area E parallel Pacific cod season will close to fishing with jig gear effective 12:00 noon March 6, 2012. This coincides with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) closure of the Pacific cod jig sector in the federal Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) area. Fishermen are reminded that there is a 24-hour delivery time requirement following closure of a groundfish fishery.

Consistent with new regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries the PWS **state-waters Pacific cod season will open to jig gear at 12:00 noon, March 7, 2012**, and will close when the 1.45 million pound fishery guideline harvest level is reached or the opening of the parallel "B" season on June 10. The PWS state-waters Pacific cod season remains open to pot gear and will open to longline gear March 17.

Vessel area registration is exclusive for the state-waters Pacific cod season. There are gear limits of five mechanical jigging machines with no more than 30 hooks per line. Vessel registrations and buoy tags may be obtained from department offices in Homer and Cordova or by appointment from Department of Public Safety in Seward.

A vessel may only be registered to fish with a single gear type, and **a vessel may not simultaneously participate in a state-waters season and any other concurrent Pacific cod season, including those in federal waters.**

Fishing Area: During a state-waters season Pacific cod may be taken in waters of the PWS Area except for those waters east of 146° 15.12' W. long. (the longitude of Hook Point (5 AAC 28.267.(e),(1)) in the Eastern Section of the Outside District.

-end-